



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Phillips
Serial No.: 10/613,647
Filing Date: July 2, 2003
Title: Surgical Retractor Having
Curved Arms

Examiner: Comstock
G.A.U.: 3732

Mail Stop – Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

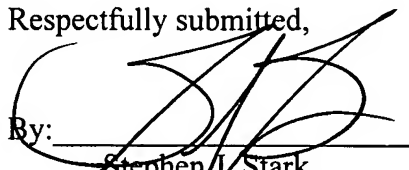
Dear Sir:

The applicant has received the Advisory Action dated August 11, 2005. A Petition for an Extension of Time for the third month is enclosed along with an RCE application. It is believed that this Preliminary Amendment will place the pending claims in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 16, 2005

By: _____


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Attorney for Applicant,
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope with sufficient first-class postage addressed to:

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on this 16 day of August, 2005.

By: Beverly L. Middleton
Beverly L. Middleton